



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Sonya Wright
 Group : 1626
 Applicants : Michael R. Hale, et al.
 Appln. No. : 09/591,464
 Filed : June 9, 2000
 For : INHIBITORS OF ASPARTYL PROTEASE

New York, New York
 February 4, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the November 2, 2001 Office Action ("the Action") in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this response within the shortened statutory period - up to and including February 4, 2002 (February 2 and 3, 2002 being a Saturday and Sunday, respectively) and thus no fee is due.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 16-17.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 15 and 18 as follows:*

* An "Appendix of Amendments" is enclosed at Exhibit 1, showing the amendments to claims 1, 8, 15 and 18. In the Appendix, the added portion is underscored and the deleted portion is bracketed.